



Gonzales County

Health Service Region 8
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Public Health Services

Health and community education; immunizations for eligible children and adults; tuberculosis treatment and contact investigation; HIV and STD testing, treatment and education; communicable disease investigation; emergency preparedness and response; and general sanitation and food establishment inspections for the county.

Region 8 Activities

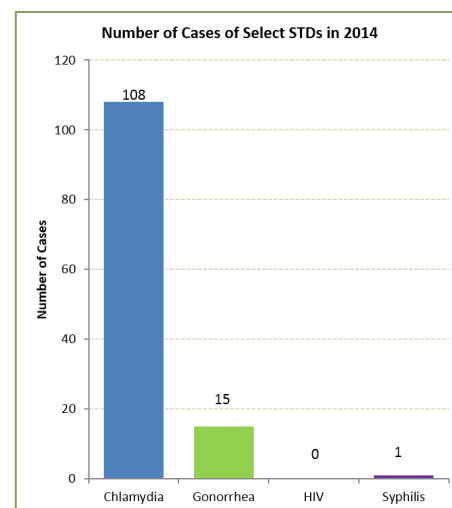
- Distribute, install and inspect child passenger safety seats and teach parents how to use them correctly
- Educate Head Start and child care facilities about health and safety
- Serve on the Gonzales ISD and Nixon-Smilely ISD School Health Advisory Committees
- Serve as a resource for school nurses, local health care providers and the hospital on immunizations and notifiable diseases
- Provide the county jail with tuberculin skin testing supplies
- Provide notification to area providers and government officials of health advisories
- Participate in the first Community Medication and Sharps Disposal Drive

Immunizations

- In 2014, the coverage rate for Texas for the recommended vaccination series dropped 8.5 points to 64%. Texas coverage rates are well below the national average of 71.6%. In the most recent data for Gonzales County, the coverage rate is 32.6%.
- The percent of public school students with a conscientious exemption from immunizations filed at the school district level in Gonzales County is 0.20%, down from 0.21% in 2010.

Snapshot of Communicable Disease Reports			
	2013	2014	2015
Campylobacteriosis	8	15	29
Chikungunya non-neuroinvasive disease	0	1	0
Cyclosporiasis	0	1	0
Encephalitis, West Nile	0	0	1
Multi-drug Resistant Organism	*	0	1
Neisseria meningitidis, invasive (Mening. disease)	1	0	0
Pertussis	0	1	0
Salmonellosis	16	6	21
Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC)	0	1	1
Shigellosis	1	2	12
Tuberculosis	1	0	0
Typhus fever-fleaborne, murine	0	2	0
Varicella (Chickenpox)	3	0	1
Vibriosis, other or unspecified	0	0	1

*MDRO not reportable in 2013.



2015 Public Health by the Numbers

- 4 children received personal care services
- 2,636 children eligible for Texas Health Steps, a Medicaid program for children
- 81 general sanitation and restaurant inspections conducted
- 19 rabies investigations conducted with 18 positive animals
- 1 rabies quarantine facility inspection